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The loud roar of the engines, the sweet smell of funnel cake and the excitement of hearing sheet metal crumple like paper as it slaps the impenetrable concrete. The immense noise of the announcer saying "Gentlemen, start your engines." All of a sudden the valley thundered as the cars sprang to life. The cars wanting to go but the drivers were holding them back. My excitement had reached its peak as the drivers sped off of pit road.

By the time it takes for an average person to blink, the cars were off beating and banging like bumper cars till one of them passed or gave up and let the driver have the spot. Twenty laps in, and a cars engine lets go. The putrid smell of two-hundred and ten degree oil slapped everyone in the face as the oil plumed out of the tailpipes. Smoke filled the area as the car had finally fully erupted into flames. As the sounds of fans cheering for the unharmd driver and the crackling of the smoldering metal that was still alight, I wondered if this day could get any better. The remaining cars sped down pit road to their awaiting crew. For the next 15 seconds all you could hear is the air wrench and jet dryers that are cleaning the remaining oil of the track.

One-hundred and eighty-eight laps in and its coming down to the wire. Two laps to go as the front runner beat and bony for the holy trophy that awaits in victor lane. One lap to go as the white flag carelessly floats up and down in the flagmans hand. The announcer also screaming into the mike was yelling "He's got the run but will he have time. He's gonna get their and he does it. That team really deserved a win." For the second time today smoke plumed into the stands but this time the burnout smelled like victory.

**Organization/Purpose: Score 4-**

- The introduction sets the stage and engages the reader with imagery and by inviting the reader to identify with the first-person narrator's viewpoint, focusing on his excitement.
- The situation is clearly established in the lead paragraph, and the narrative flows logically, from lap to lap of the race.
- Excellent closure is provided with the reference to the smoke that "smelled like victory."

**Evidence/Elaboration: Score 4-**

- The narrator's stance, the setting, and the characters and events are all clearly developed, beginning with the setting and flag that starts the race to the conclusion of the race.
- Sensory imagery and figurative language are used well: "loud roar of the engines," "cars sprung to life," "putrid smell of 210-degree oil," "the oil plumed out of the tailpipes," smell of victory." Visual, auditory, and olfactory imagery are intermingled well.
- The direct, informal style enhances the narrative and is appropriate to the setting and situation.

**Conventions: Score 2**

- Effective use of alternating simple and complex sentence structures
- Few errors in punctuation and spelling
- The variety, severity, and density of the errors are few.